

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (*Currently Amended*): A disc device comprising:

a disc;

a driving section configured to support and rotate the disc;

a head configured to record and reproduce information onto and from the disc; and

a case containing the disc, the driving section and the head,

the case including:

(a) a case main unit having an opening; and

(b) a cover secured to the case main unit, closing the opening and opposing the disc, and

the cover including:

(a) a first arcuate stepped portion opposing an outer periphery of the disc;

(b) a second arcuate stepped portion located closer to the disc than the first stepped portion; and

(c) a ~~second~~ third arcuate stepped portion located closer to the disc than the second stepped portion,

wherein the first, second, and third arcuate stepped portions are formed concentric with the disc.

2. (*Currently Amended*): The disc device according to claim 1, wherein the first, second, and ~~to~~ third arcuate stepped portions are configured to concentrically extend through at least 180° away from a movement route of the head, opposing the disc.

3. (*Currently Amended*): The disc device according to claim 2, wherein the second arcuate stepped portion is provided inside the first arcuate stepped portion, and the third arcuate stepped portion is included in the second arcuate stepped portion.

4. (*Currently Amended*): The disc device according to claim 3, wherein the a fourth substantially circular stepped portion is provided inside the second arcuate stepped portion, the fourth stepped portion ~~opposing~~ configured to oppose a hub used to attach the disc to the driving section.

5. (*Original*): The disc device according to claim 4, wherein the fourth stepped portion has substantially a same height as the first stepped portion.

6. (*Currently Amended*): The disc device according to claim 3, wherein a ratio of a height difference between the first and second arcuate stepped portions to a height difference between the first and third arcuate stepped portions falls within a range of 0.3 to 0.85.

7. (*Currently Amended*): The disc device according to claim 3, wherein a ratio of a radial width of the second arcuate stepped portion to a radial width of the third arcuate stepped portion falls within a range of 0.3 to 0.9.

8. – 13. (*Cancelled*).

14. (*Currently Amended*): A disc device comprising:

a disc;

a driving section configured to support and rotate the disc;

a head configured to record and reproduce information onto and from the disc; and

a case containing the disc, the driving section and the head,

the case including:

(a) a case main unit having an opening; and
(b) a cover secured to the case main unit, closing the opening and opposing the disc, and
the cover including:
(a) a first arcuate stepped portion opposing an outer periphery of the disc;
(b) a second arcuate stepped portion located closer to the disc than the first stepped portion;
(c) a ~~second~~ third arcuate stepped portion located closer to the disc than the second stepped portion; and
(d) a stepped control portion located closer to the disc than the third arcuate stepped portion, the stepped control portion suppressing vibration of the outer periphery of the disc in a direction parallel to a surface of the disc,
wherein the first, second, and third arcuate stepped portions are formed concentric with the disc.

15. (*Currently Amended*): The disc device according to claim 14, wherein the first, second, and ~~to~~ third arcuate stepped portions are configured to concentrically extend through at least 180° away from a movement route of the head, opposing the disc..

16. (*Currently Amended*): The disc device according to claim 15, wherein the second arcuate stepped portion is provided inside the first arcuate stepped portion, and the third arcuate stepped portion is included in the second arcuate stepped portion.

17. (*Currently Amended*): The disc device according to claim 16, wherein a ratio of a height difference between the first and second arcuate stepped portions to a height difference between the first and third arcuate stepped portions falls within a range of 0.3 to 0.85.

18. (*Currently Amended*): The disc device according to claim 16, wherein a ratio of a radial width of the second arcuate stepped portion to a radial width of the third arcuate stepped portion falls within a range of 0.3 to 0.9.

19. (*Cancelled*).

20. (*Original*): The disc device according to claim 14, wherein the stepped control portion is formed arcuate along an outer periphery of the first stepped portion.

21. (*Original*): The disc device according to claim 14, wherein the stepped control portion diametrically opposes a holding mechanism with the disc interposed therebetween, the holding mechanism being used to hold the head in a retracted position deviated from a position in which the head is positioned above the disc.